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# STUDENT REVIEW



Find out what SR has in store for you... pp. 2-3

All you ever wanted to know about Southern  
Virginia College... pp. 4-11

# From the editor: A Clean Slate

(and other cliches that pertain to new beginnings)

By Taryn Wahlquist

Welcome, welcome to the kick off issue of *Student Review*'s eleventh year of publishing. As this is my first issue as editor, I feel the need to give a campaign speech of sorts. When I was in the third grade I ran for treasurer at my elementary school in Virginia. My mom made lots of great posters, and I handed out sticks of gum that said, "chews the right" or something. I made lots of idle third grade promises, delivered speeches that moved the administration to tears, and in the end I lost.

So here I am, 12 years later, and once again I find myself needing to somehow prove myself. The difference is that this time I've already got the job. And since I'm already in this position of great power and prestige, I find myself wondering what kinds of promises I should make. If I passed out sticks of gum, would you believe I was a good editor?

The truth is that I have no proof to offer you. All I can tell you is that I care about the *Review*. With the help of about eight or nine staff members, the counsel of a dozen or so SR alumni, and the financial aid of Southern Virginia College, I brought *Student Review* back from the dead. Why? Because BYU needs this kind of forum. BYU needs a magazine that people can turn to for sincere and (almost) uncensored, yet responsible writing.

As I began the long and sometimes painful process of reviving this magazine, I engaged in many discussions concerning its purpose. I have found that *Student Review* has meant many different things to many different people. Some believed that it should be more serious. One such person advised me to "get rid of the bubble gum language." Some insisted that humor was the key. I have thoughtfully considered all the arguments, and am prepared to share with you what is my vision for *Student Review*.

We are an independent forum for thought. That means that real thinking should be going on—both in the minds of our writers, and the minds of our readers. Our goal is to publish thoughtful, insightful essays that explore different questions of academia, spirituality, and life in general. Humor has its place in this magazine, but my vision goes beyond mere entertainment. I sincerely hope that you will begin to pick up our magazine for enriching, enlightening, and thought-provoking reading.

Now, a word on the reputation of SR. In the past, this magazine has been called many things—certainly not all of them positive. I have been amused by some of these names, but others have left me slightly disturbed. One such accusation is that we are an "apostate magazine." It troubles me that in Provo, Utah, alternative is synonymous with apostate. It is not the intention of this staff to deter anyone from believing in the Gospel. By that same token, it is neither our intention to encourage anyone to believe. Rather, we hope only to provide a forum where such issues can be discussed in a responsible fashion. Our goal is not to stir up controversy, but we won't be afraid of it either. We provide the forum—you provide the content.

Welcome to a new era of SR. I hope you all enjoy the show.

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Student Review is an independent forum of thought. The views expressed herein reflect the opinions of the individual authors.



WATCH FOR INFORMATION IN THE NEXT ISSUE ON HOW YOU CAN JOIN **STUDENT REVIEW**

# What to Expect from Student Review

Since we haven't actually published since March, we figured we ought to give you an idea of what you are in store for in the fall. This particular issue is dedicated mostly to Southern Virginia College (in case you hadn't noticed), but here's what Student Review will be like in the future. Following are an explanation for each section by the appropriate section editor.

## Campus Life

By Taryn Wahlquist

I know, I know, you've heard enough from me already (and there's more to come—I'm sorry), but I have to explain Campus Life to you. As if you need me to explain it, right? I hear the old SR crew did entire issues of nothing but humor. Perhaps you remember our dear friend Matt Workman? I'm sorry, he's gone (sob). That's right—that entire generation of funny guys grew up and moved out into the real world.

So you're stuck with us. Poor you. The woman who will be heading up this section in the fall is Cami Hill, funny girl supreme. I've been laughing non-stop since I met her, and in less than a month when our September issue comes out, you will know what I mean. I know what she's got planned, but I'm not supposed to tell. However, I am not at all opposed to bribes, so if you get a check in the mail, maybe we can work something out. Until then, ba-bye.

## Noize & Cinematix

by Priscilla Harman

If you're into music, movies, or the local scene here in Provo, Noize and Cinematix will be the section to find what you crave. We'll be keeping you updated on the latest and greatest bands, letting you know which flicks you should and should NOT see, and printing pictures of Pamela Anderson regularly. Just kidding.

Think of this column as the barometer of culture in Provo. Plan your weekends around what you read here and you'll be assured eternal hipness. In the immortal words of the Tick, "May evil beware, and may good dress

warmly and eat plenty of fresh vegetables."

editor's note: Priscilla changed the spelling to include the z and the x. Let us know if it's a little too hip and pop-culturish for you. I am of the opinion that it might be.



where your voices can be heard. Letters to the editor, or any other form of responsible expression, are enthusiastically welcomed.

## The Special Section

By Liza Olsen

So what's in it for you? Loads of excitement because you won't always know quite what to expect from this section—the noize and cinematix section or the issues and opinions or campus life sections are pretty self-explanatory. But "special" doesn't narrow down the topics too much. A lot of things qualify for special status. But that's good because if something mega newsworthy surfaces out of the blue then we'll be open to grab it and run with it in this section. Its flexibility caters to what demands its attention at a particular time.

For example, our September special section is geared toward freshmen because 6,000 of them will be joining us in the fall—an event that's hard to ignore. Tune in for some vital info designed to assist and enlighten our underclassmen.

Something else to look forward to: The Wilkinson Center, dubbed the "hub" of BYU campus, is undergoing huge renovation. It's a maze right now. So, in October, the section will devote all its energies to investigating and explaining the construction at the Wilk. It'll consider things like, What exactly is going

on over there and what is the resulting campus living room going to be like? What inconveniences will patrons of the Wilk put up with until its renovation mission is completed (Just take a jaunt through the Wilk and you'll see what I mean)?

So, though we have the basic plan for the next couple issues, there's plenty of open territory to explore. And, come to think of it, you do know what to expect from this section after all—nothing less than great stories and timely, sophisticated information.

## Issues & Opinions

By Howard Baik

This section will explore a wide gamut of issues that affect you, the reader. We support an open forum of thought where voices can be heard and issues dealt with in a fair and responsible manner. Apathy is our enemy and we hope to further promote independent, intelligent thinking through our dealing with issues and opinions in this section. Of course, we espouse the idea that everyone should have a place to voice their opinions. Here is

## TOP 20

1. The Olympics
2. Refreshment tables
3. Sunstone Symposium
4. Woody Allen films
5. Student Review
6. Sanitation
7. The Rosie O'Donnell Show
8. Enchiladas
9. Co-ed camping
10. English professors
11. Pierce Brosnan
12. Personal Hygiene
13. Richard in the City (we hate Caroline)
14. Owning
15. The Rock
16. Mama's Cafe
17. Southern Virginia College
18. SR alumni
19. Say Anything
20. The Daves I know

## BOTTEOMMO

Terrorism, Construction at BYU, Renting, Public restrooms, Bob Dole, Daily Universe, Bill Clinton, Being "The single guy", Watching "The Single Guy", Teenagers in Wymount



Old and new members of the board of trustees, following the agreement transferring control of the college, April 10, 1996.

## A Conversation with the President

By Lauralyn Jensen

When Southern Virginia College was turned over to its new Board of Trustees in May, all the stresses of running a higher institute of learning fell in the lap of David W. Farrell. He isn't complaining, though. In fact, as the new President of the College, Farrell is overjoyed about the whole situation.

The college was in trouble. Continuously declining enrollment and financial difficulty had landed SVC in jeopardy of losing accreditation. The school was scheduled to close its doors at the end of the 1995-96 school year. But a group of interested locals, mainly LDS, stepped in and offered to take over the college—assets and debts—and get it running again. Within a few months the proposal was accepted and SVC changed hands. A Board of Trustees consisting of four remaining and seventeen new members took their seats.

Southern Virginia College has been a two-year Women's college for the past 130 years. In September, it officially opens as a four-year, co-ed Liberal Arts School. According to President Farrell, enrollment for Fall will be limited to approximately 200 students, with an additional 200 added each year until enrollment is maintained at about 1000.

Perhaps the greatest point of interest is the Honor Code to be employed. "It is modeled largely after the BYU version, but won't be quite as stringent," said Farrell.

Neither will the BYU-esque tattle-tale environment be encouraged. President Farrell sees the new honor code, which is an improvement of an already existing Code-of-Conduct, as a guideline.

"It creates an atmosphere with the standards of BYU," said Farrell, "but it is not to be used as a tool to get at other students."

With so many changes, community reaction was unpredictable. "They saw their college closing," said President Farrell, "They've been so positive and so wonderful it's just breathtaking to us."

The change of hands and the honor code aren't the only changes, however. Ten professors will remain, and six new will be added. Farrell said that with the changing curriculum, enrichment courses, such as religion, will be taught (on a pass or fail grading scale). LDS institute will also be offered. Educational methods will change as well. Every student will be required to have a laptop computer (which can be rented from the school), with which they will do most of their work, including in-class internet work. Farrell is confident that this new approach will better prepare students with skills they'll need in the real world.

The overall attitude of seemingly everyone is one of immense gladness. President Farrell stressed that they want very much to hear from anyone interested in making donations, which are tax deductible (see page 11). Also, people interested in attending the school are encouraged to investigate. Southern Virginia College has a website that can be accessed at <http://www.southernvirginia.edu> or they can be e-mailed at: [info@southernvirginia.edu](mailto:info@southernvirginia.edu). Admissions office toll-free number is 1-800-229-8420.

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**"It creates an atmosphere with the standards of BYU," said Farrell, "but it is not to be used as a tool to get at other students."**

# The History and Development of Southern Virginia College

Southern Virginia College is a new institution of higher learning with a 130-year tradition. The school was founded in 1867, during Virginia's post-Civil War era, when Alice Scott Chandler established the Home School for Girls in Bowling Green, later renamed the Bowling Green Female Seminary. In 1900, the head of the school, Dr. E. H. Rowe, changed its name to Southern Seminary and moved it to Buena Vista. It was located in the splendid Buena Vista Hotel, which had been built 10 years earlier to accommodate the large number of land speculators who had come to the little town as a result of iron ore discoveries. The "boom" was short-lived, however, and Dr. Rowe was able to purchase the hotel for \$10,000—a large investment at the turn of the century. The original hotel still serves as Main Hall, the College's principal building, and holds a place of distinction on the National Register of Historic Places and as a Virginia Historic Landmark.

In 1919, Dr. Robert Lee Durham, former dean of Martha Washington College, bought a half-interest in Southern Seminary and became the resident head of the school. An educator, lawyer, engineer, author, and inventor, Dr. Durham established a strong academic foundation for the institution. In 1922, Dr. Durham's daughter, Margaret, married H. Russell Robey, who purchased Dr. Rowe's remaining interest in the

school. Mr. Robey became the business manager and treasurer, and a long-range plan for expansion and curricular growth was developed and implemented. A junior college program was added in 1924, and its first class was graduated in 1925. The period of greatest physical growth of the school, now called Southern Seminary and Junior College, occurred during the presidency of Margaret Durham Robey, who succeeded her father upon his retirement in 1942. Facilities for art, early childhood education, and home economics were added.

In 1958, the Robeys turned over the ownership of the College to a Board of Trustees, and the institution changed from proprietary to non-profit status. In 1961, the school ceased offering high school courses, and the name of the institution was consequently changed to Southern Seminary Junior College. The academic program was expanded to allow students to either begin careers after their two years at the school or transfer to four-year colleges. "Sem" became a nationally recognized competitor in intercollegiate riding, winning

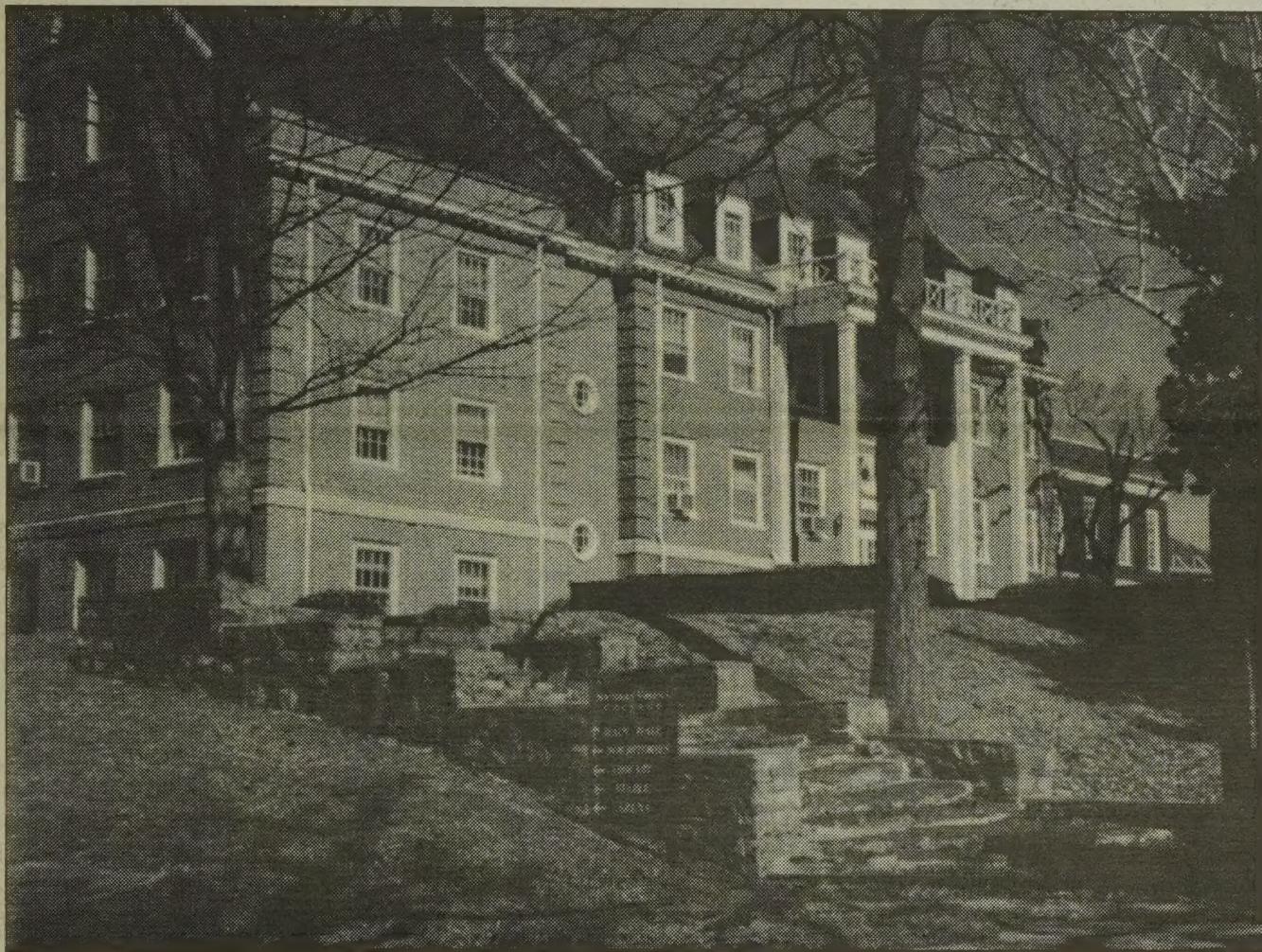
numerous state, regional, and national equitation competitions. By the early 1990's it had been generally forgotten that a seminary was anything but a school for preparation for the ministry, and so to avoid confusion the name was again changed, to Southern Virginia College for Women, which was later shortened to Southern Virginia College when male students began to be admitted.

In May, 1996, a new Board of Trustees and Administration, most of whom were associated with the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, were elected to lead the College through a period of institutional restructuring. While strengthening the morally uplifting cultural and social environment for which Southern Virginia has always been known, the new Administration is developing the College from a two-year school for women into a four-year coeducational institution. It is also giving a new focus to the academic program of the College, building upon the liberal arts core to develop a comprehensive liberal arts education that uses the great books, the works of

philosophy, literature, and science that constitute the foundation of Western culture, in all aspects of the curriculum. Some things are not being changed by the new Board and Administration, however. The College remains a non-stock, non-member, non-profit corporation

governed by a Board of Trustees that serves without compensation, with no individuals or institutions having a controlling ownership or interest in the school. It continues as a residential school dedicated primarily to teaching undergraduate students, with a low student-faculty ratio. It maintains its traditional emphasis on horsemanship and riding.

Southern Virginia College is licensed by the Commonwealth of Virginia to offer an Associate Degree program in Equine Studies, an Associate Degree program in Liberal Arts and Sciences/Liberal Studies, and a Bachelor's Degree program in Liberal Arts and Sciences/Liberal Studies. For 130 years, the College has demonstrated its commitment to higher education by recognizing the worth and potential of all students and by nourishing their growth through the work of caring, concerned faculty and staff. Now on its way to becoming a regionally and nationally recognized institution of higher learning, the College is transforming traditional practices under the influence of innovative ideas, to create a new model of education for the 21st century.



# Pondering the “Great Books” of Western Civilization

By Taryn Wahlquist

I often complain that I don't have the time to read all that I'd like to. In Southern Virginia, I'm certain students will soon be complaining that they don't have the time to read all that they're required to. The curriculum of this new liberal arts college is called the Great Books curriculum, and using my deductive reasoning (or is it inductive? I can never remember), I concluded that students would be reading great books.

I read the tentative reading list for the college, and, with the exception of *Huckleberry Finn*, was sad to find none of my favorite books. Then I was embarrassed to

discover that I had read only a few of these supposed “great books.” This caused me to ponder a bit on what constitutes a great book. If these are so great, why have I never read them? Why aren't my professors requiring them? It's all a little disheartening.

So I spoke with Roger Barrus, Provost and Dean of the College, and I demanded to know what made a great book. Just how did he compile this list? He informed me that many of the books were taken from the list at St. John's College and other institutions where the Great Books curriculum is already in place. He added that it's really not that hard to figure out why these particular books are being included.

“This isn't a sacred list. These are the books by the authors that other authors talk about. They're the books whose influence we can't get away from,” said Barrus.

My next reaction was to wonder whose vote mattered. What about books by Toni Morrison, Chaim Potok, Rudolfo Anaya... the books whose influence I couldn't get away from? Doesn't anyone else have a say in which books are influential? Barrus reminded me that the list I was looking at was merely a tentative

list, and changes can certainly still be made. Once the list is set, however, he said changes will not come as easy.

The process will work like this: If a faculty member or other interested party would like to make a suggestion, s/he will be asked to submit a proposal to the Academic Affairs Committee. The person must then make a convincing argument in favor of the particular work s/he is proposing. But it's not that simple. Because you can't simply keep adding works to the list, when a new one goes on, another must obviously come off.

So if I were a professor at SVC (Lord help us all), and I wanted *Beloved* by Toni Morrison on the list, I would have to choose which one it should replace. So let's say I hate Hawthorne's *The Scarlet Letter*. I draft a proposal and I go before the Academic Affairs Committee and make an argument for my cause. There would certainly be one or more faculty member who favors *The Scarlet Letter*—hence, the controversy and debate begins. It's what true scholars and thinkers live for, and Barrus contends that this system will ensure that faculty members take the curriculum seriously. Students are sure to get a better education when their professors are passionate about the material.

When I first began learning about Southern Virginia College, I was shocked to learn that it offered no majors. When I asked Barrus why that was, he simply said, “Because I don't think they really add a whole lot.”

Barrus feels that offering majors calls for premature specialization. “Very few jobs actually require you to have a certain major,” Barrus said. He feels that picking a major “commands the student to focus on one narrow field when the purpose of higher education should be to raise

the big issues in life.” Students should be learning how to think and write, and that is the kind of education that the Great Books curriculum intends to provide.

Barrus also believes that majors are a built-in cost escalator. “Kids don't distribute themselves evenly across the majors. Some departments are always overprescribed, while some are always underprescribed. The overprescribed departments want more faculty and more money, yet the underprescribed ones aren't willing to give up any of their resources,” he said.

Another reason for the absence of majors is that Southern Virginia will strive to create a community in which students and faculty are all broadly educated in the same kind of material. Students should be asking, “How does all this fit together?” and they can ask questions in one class about how these ideas relate to other classes they're taking. Barrus said, “I can use my faculty resources much more effectively by not tying them to majors.”

At the center of the curriculum lie four year-long seminars. The first is entitled “Religion, Philosophy, and Science” and includes works by Darwin, Aristotle, Homer, Plato, and many more.

“Western History and Culture” will be studied in the second year seminar, with students reading Machiavelli, Virgil, Churchill, and Herodotus, among others.

Seminar 3 is on “American Civilization” and students will be required to read *Moby Dick*, *The Scarlet Letter*, *The Great Gatsby*, and other well-known works in American History. Selected speeches by Washington, Jefferson, Lincoln, Wilson, Roosevelt, and Reagan will also be studied, along with selected Supreme Court decisions.

The fourth seminar is entitled “The Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries.” C.S. Lewis, Tolstoy, Marx, and Freud are some of the big names found on this list. I find it hard to believe that anyone could read *War and Peace* in the same year they are asked to read *The Brothers*

*Karamazov* by Dostoevski, and *Civilization and Its Discontents* by Freud, but Barrus seems to think the list is in no way unreasonable. Each seminar includes a total of 14 to 16 books. Barrus said that when a class is worth 8 credit hours, “that's a pretty good chunk of your college curriculum.” As I mentioned before, one seminar spans an entire year, and Barrus expects each book to take up to several weeks, depending on the work.

In addition to the four seminars, students will take classes on English Literature, Politics and Government, Art, Drama, and Music, Economics, Ethics, Mathematics, Physical Science, and Life Science. The reading lists for those classes range

**“The Great Books” cont.**  
**next page**

## Required Classes:

- Education Seminars: 32 credits
- English Composition: 8 credits
- Art, Music, Drama: 8 credits
- Mathematics: 8 credits
- Life Science: 8 credits
- Ethics: 4 credits
- Enrichment: 8 non-credit classes
- Foreign Language and Literature: 16 credits
- English Literature: 8 credits
- Politics and Government: 8 credits
- Physical Science: 8 credits
- Economics: 4 credits
- Electives: 16 credits

**Examples of enrichment classes include Chorus, Studio Art, Dance, Riding, Computer Applications, Gardening, Home Maintenance, Photography, Stress Management, Public Speaking, Interior Design, Swimming, LDS Institute and other religious classes.**

# You want me to read what?

Following are the tentative reading lists for the 4 seminars:

## Seminar 1: Religion, Philosophy, and Science.

Bible

Homer, *Iliad*

Sophocles, *Oedipus Rex*, *Antigone*

Aristophanes, *Clouds*

Plato, *Euthyphro*, *Apology*, *Crito*,  
*Phaedo*

Aristotle, *Metaphysics*

Lucretius, *On the Nature of Things*

Augustine, *Confessions*

Thomas Aquinas, *Summa Theologiae*

Descartes, *Discourse on the Method*

Bacon, *Novum Organon*, *The New Atlantis*

Darwin, *The Origin of Species*

Rousseau, *Discourse on the Arts and Sciences*

Kierkegaard, *Philosophical Fragments*

Nietzsche, *Thus Spake Zarathustra*

## Seminar 2: Western History and Culture

Homer, *Odyssey*

Aeschylus, *Agamemnon*, *Choephoroe*,  
*Eumenides*

Herodotus, *Histories*

Thucydides, *The Peloponnesian War*

Virgil, *Aeneid*

Plutarch, *Lives of the Noble Greeks and Romans*

Tacitus, *Annals*

Gibbon, *The Rise and Fall of the Roman Empire*

Machiavelli, *The Florentine Histories*

Continued from Page 6...

Burkhardt, *The Civilization of the Renaissance in Italy*

Hegel, *Philosophy of History*

Macaulay, *The History of England*

Churchill, *The Second World War*

Solzhenitsyn, *The Gulag Archipelago*

## Seminar 3: American Civilization

Franklin, *The Autobiography*

Jefferson, *Notes on the State of Virginia*

Articles of Confederation,  
Declaration of Independence,  
Constitution

Hamilton, Madison, and Jay, *The Federalist Papers*

Hawthorne, *The Scarlet Letter*

Melville, *Moby Dick*

Thoreau, *Walden*

Emerson, "The American Scholar"

Frederick Douglass, *The Narrative*

Mark Twain, *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, *A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court*

Adams, *The Education of Henry Adams*

Fitzgerald, *The Great Gatsby*

Warren, *All the King's Men*

Selected Speeches of Washington,  
Jefferson, Lincoln, Wilson, Roosevelt,  
and Reagan.

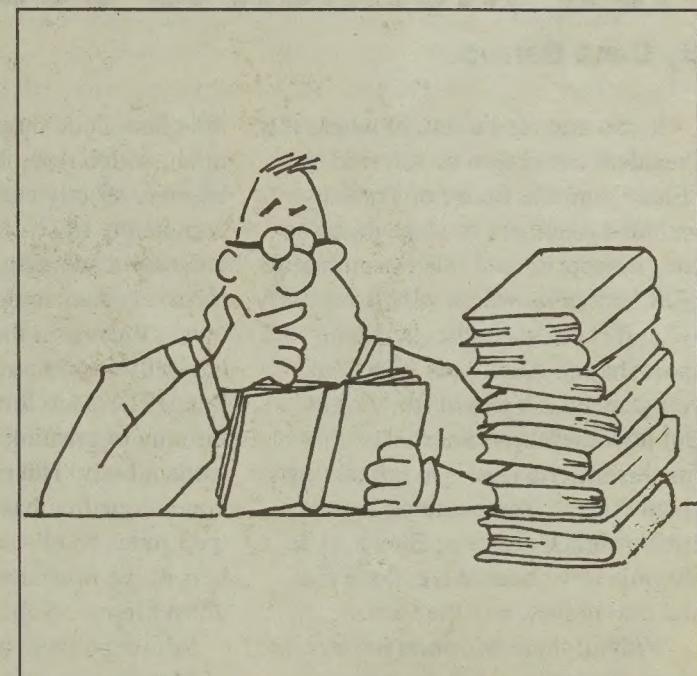
Selected Supreme Court Opinions.

## Seminar 4: The Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries

Kant, *Critique of Pure Reason*

Hegel, *Phenomenology of Spirit*

Goethe, *Faust*



Marx, "On the Jewish Question,"  
"Political and Economic Manuscripts of 1844."

Dostoevski, *The Brothers Karamazov*

Flaubert, *Madame Bovary*

Tolstoy, *War and Peace*

Nietzsche, *The Genealogy of Morals*,  
*Beyond Good and Evil*

Freud, *Civilization and Its Discontents*

Kafka, "The Metamorphosis," "The Penal Colony"

Essays by Einstein, Heisenberg, and Teilhard de Chardin

Husserl, "Philosophy as Rigorous Science," "The Crisis of European Philosophy"

Heidegger, *Being and Time*; "Letter on Humanism"

C. S. Lewis, *The Abolition of Man*

# The Great Books

from four books to 13 books. The English Literature class includes 11 books and nine Shakespeare plays. As you may have already gathered, this is not a curriculum for students who don't take their reading seriously. My guess is that Nancy Drew and The Hardy Boys will never make it.

The Bible is on the list for one of the seminars as well as a class on Politics and Government, and another class on Ethics. I asked Barrus about the possible inclusion of the Book of Mormon, and he indicated he would love to see it be added.

"Sometimes I don't think we as Latter-Day Saints realize what a great book it is. We tend to look at it as a collection of stories. We ought to stop and think about why the authors included those particular stories," Barrus said. "I think there's a great place for it on the list, but it's not there yet."

Barrus also said that perhaps a course on revealed religions would be added to the curriculum, in which The Book of Mormon could be discussed along with works unique to other religions, such as the Koran, the Tripitaka, and the Tao Te Ching.

It is clear to me that Barrus' vision

is to create a community of sincere thought. That kind of community is sometimes hard to find at a place like BYU, where most students are unclear on what it means to have academic freedom. Because Southern Virginia College is not officially affiliated with the LDS church, and many of the faculty are non-members, students will probably be free to express alternative, thoughtful viewpoints in a non-hostile and safe environment.

Although the reading list was a little overwhelming to look at, the list was obviously devised in order to provide students with a valuable and

meaningful education, that will better prepare them to live and function in the 21st century.

So while I'm trying desperately to memorize my psychology text so that I can regurgitate the appropriate information on my next exam, and my roommate is writing a paper on the joys of canoeing, I can take comfort that somewhere in America real learning and real thinking is actually taking place. Perhaps some of Southern Virginia College's next generation of thinkers will have some of their own writing on a list of Great Books. Go team.

# **How Mormon is Southern Virginia College?**

By Dana Barrus

If you attended a school where the President could also be referred to as "Elder" and the Board of Trustees included members of stake presidencies, bishoprics and other prominent LDS members, where would you be? What if (here's the clincher) your shorts had to reach your knees? If you guessed BYU, you're... right. But now there's another place that fits this criteria (and I'm not talking about Ricks). You could be at Southern Virginia College in Buena Vista, Virginia (I've been there, done that, and did, in fact, buy the t-shirt).

With all these Mormon leaders, it is easy to assume that this new school is owned and operated by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. This is not true. SVC is non-sectarian, meaning it belongs to no specific organization or church. It does, however, have a student life that is welcoming to Mormon students, pointed out Roger Barrus, college Provost... and my father.

The founders of SVC, Dad said, believe that an atmosphere truly conducive to study is void of harmful practices such as consumption of alcohol and premarital sexual relations. For this reason, the college has implemented a dress and conduct code, which bans such things from campus.

There has been a concern that this honor code will deter students from attending SVC. To this Barrus responded that one does not need to be Mormon to realize that such things are bad for the body and mind, but if a student feels some sort of allegiance to those party practices there are other colleges and universities that will accommodate. The goal of the college is to protect correct principles and they are looking for students who demand similarly high standards. If they start to get bored, maybe they could take up creative dating to fill spare time, as we do here at the Y. If all else fails, they could have a KoolAid kegger!

Before the school became Southern Virginia College, it was Southern Virginia College for Women and had a similar honor code. The new administration stresses, however, that

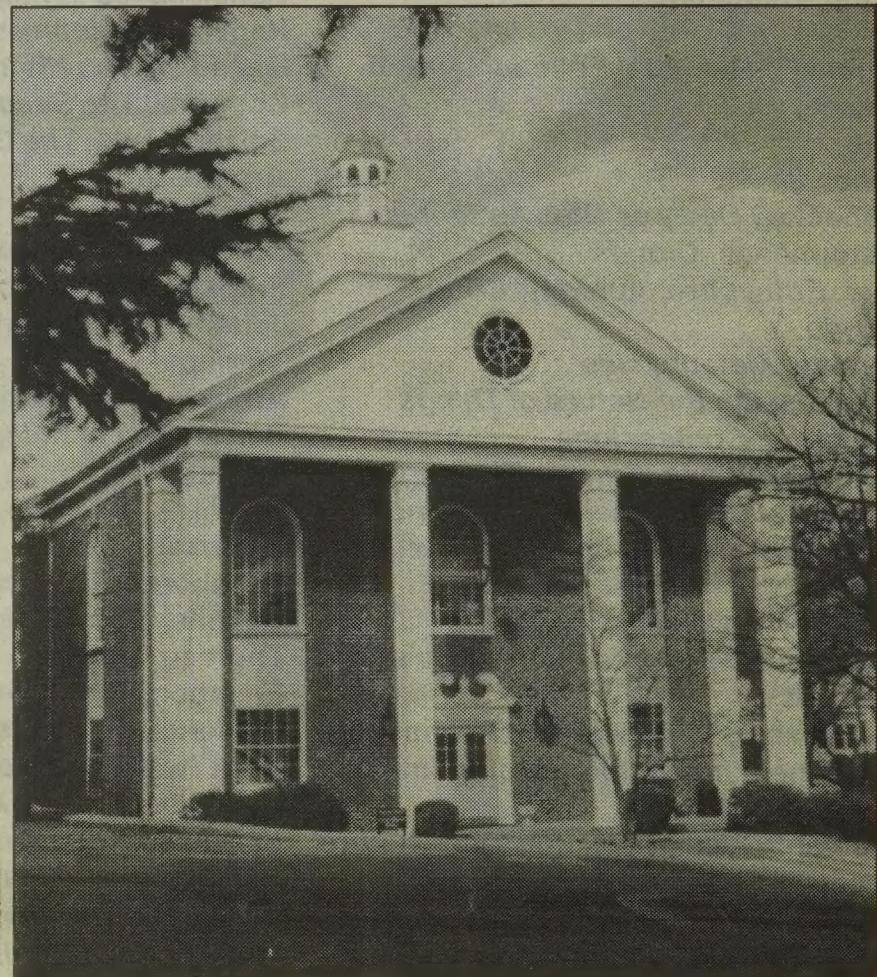
the honor code they have decided upon, which resembles BYU's, will be more strictly enforced. With a completely fresh class of students and new leadership, this should be relatively easy to do, added Dad, I mean, Barrus. In this regard, starting basically from scratch is a positive thing. There are fewer obstacles in the way of creating a strong, moral student body. The main point of the honor code that has been argued is the limitation of times when members of the opposite sex can be in the dorm rooms... Sob.

Although there is a strong feeling of Mormonism at the school, especially since most of the students are members, professors will not be required to bring the LDS religion in to the classroom as they are at BYU. It is assumed that the curriculum will be one in which the question of important things in the students' lives will be openly discussed, especially religion. Of course, since SVC is nondenominational, many different religions will be included.

For their religious education, LDS students can turn to the Institute program that is being added to the college. Extra-curricular activities will also include LDSSA (Latter-Day Saint Student Association) and student wards where members can socialize, strengthen each other, and search for their eternal companions.

It has been a concern of many of the citizens of Buena Vista that "those Mormons" would come in and take over everything, and force nonmembers out. Barrus was quick to explain that this is far from the case. Actually, many of the staff previously at SVC have remained, granted they had the credentials to do so. In fact, the majority of the staff there are not members of the Mormon church. They are, however, very supportive of what the new administration is seeking to do. One employee noted that the feeling at the college has completely changed and seems to encourage much more cooperation and less of the negative feelings that have been there in the past.

I have visited Southern Virginia



College, and I would have to agree. The Spirit is all over that place! I didn't even see any Franklin Plan-

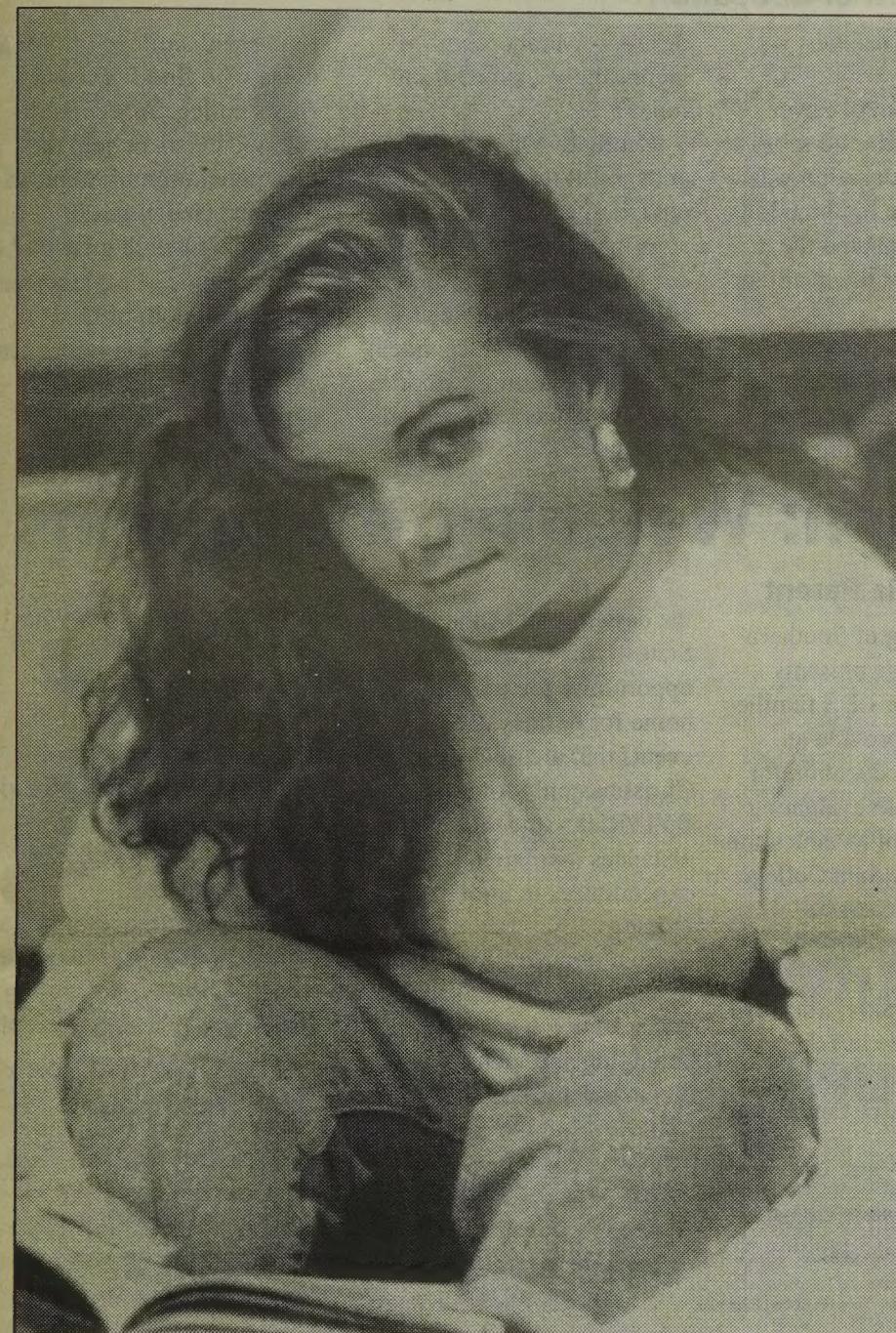
ners, and there's not much married housing... Perhaps I have been at BYU too long.

## **The Mission of the College**

Southern Virginia College is a private, non-sectarian, not-for-profit residential college located in Buena Vista, Virginia. The College offers a comprehensive liberal arts education based on the careful reading of the great books that constitute the foundation of the Western cultural tradition. Students are expected to be active participants in their own education, engaging in serious discussion and thoughtful analysis of these works. By dint of constant practice, they learn to express their thoughts clearly and forcefully both orally and in written form. The curriculum at Southern Virginia College is built around annual general education seminars and includes core requirements in English composition, English literature, foreign language and literature, mathematics, physical science, life science, art and music, government and politics, and economics. A limited number of specialized elective courses allow students to gain the knowledge and skills necessary to prepare them for graduate or professional education, or entrance into their chosen careers. Students' academic curriculum is enriched by non-academic classes in religion, studio arts, practical sciences, and athletics. Education at Southern Virginia College is supported by a social environment that respects religious belief and practice, and inculcates the highest standards of personal conduct. By virtue of the grounding that they receive in the thought that has guided the development of their world, and the skills that they acquire for participating in that world, students at Southern Virginia College are prepared to be active and productive citizens and happy and fulfilled human beings.

# When BYU didn't want her...

By Corinne Barrus



Hi, my name is Corinne Barrus. You may have heard of me, even though we've never met. It seems like every newspaper in the country has written about the pitiful girl who didn't get into college, and that girl is me. As much as I love to read about how upset I was when I was denied admission, twice, I am excited to be given the opportunity to tell my story. I hope you'll see that it's really not that bad.

I am from Richmond, Virginia. Like the typical Mormon girl I had decided that my life's goal was to go to BYU, or Ricks, and find my eternal companion. Not a real complex plan, but I thought it was a good

one. My transcript fit the requirements of both institutions, and I had no doubt that I would be admitted. I actually thought my only trouble would be choosing between a two year college and a four year university.

When the letter came from BYU, I only read, "We are sorry that we cannot offer you admission..." and I knew that the choice was made for me. I decided that I would just have to go to Ricks, then off to BYU, to fulfill my goal. Week after week I anticipated the letter from Ricks, only to receive a similar letter of regret. Disappointed? You bet I was disappointed! My life's goal was

disturbed. You've heard of Heavenly Father's plan? I always figured that BYU was a part of that plan for every worthy eighteen year old. How could I be any different?

Day after day I prayed that I might find a college that met my needs. Continually I was told that maybe the Lord had another plan for me. I honestly could not understand why He had a different plan for me, when it seemed all the other LDS youth were on the BYU plan. I prayed to find out a reason. It was after a ward dance that my prayers began to be answered.

As I walked in the front door, I was greeted by both of my parents, anxiously awaiting my arrival. My mother was the first to tell me the news of a college, Southern Virginia, that was having to close in the fall, due to financial difficulties. I replied sarcastically that that was the best news I'd heard all day, but I wasn't sure why. "Because," she said, "We're going to take it over, and run it with BYU standards."

I laughed at the idea and asked if they had had too much to drink at the Stake President's birthday party. She insisted that it was no joke. We sat up half the night discussing details of how this was going to happen. The curriculum would be based on the great books of the Western world. Each student would be expected to read and form educated opinions on the books that are the foundation of the Western cultural tradition.

More important were the plans to create an environment comparable to an LDS college. I will admit that it seemed exciting, but you don't just take over a college. Even if someone else could, my family just did not do that sort of thing. Dad was a college professor. How could he do this alone? Quickly, I learned that he was not alone. Day after day things fell into place. It was amazing to see how many families were led to this college. Heavenly Father

knew that the East needed a college that not only improved the education of the students, but more importantly improved the quality of their character. I could not believe that I was a part of this well thought out plan.

To make a long story short, we are opening on September 2, 1996. Articles that I've read make my story sound like a real tear-jerker. But I really don't feel sorry for myself. I consider myself very privileged to be a part of such a wonderful institution. I am humbled to know that the Lord has chosen me to be involved in the birth of this great college. I am able to see how involved the Lord is, even in the mundane decisions. It is a comfort knowing that many of the faculty, board, and student body have been inspired to come to Southern Virginia, and have followed that inspiration.

Does this make the task of creating a college easier? Not at all. We are faced with great trials daily, but every trial has proven to be a testimony builder to all involved. Students that leave Southern Virginia will leave, not only with an extremely advanced education, but an even more advanced preparation for the last days. Each student will be able to experience the difference it makes when the hearts of all involved are as one, in the common purpose to do the Lord's will.

Mosiah 7:18 says, "And the Lord called his people Zion, because they were of one heart and one mind, and dwelt in righteousness; and there were no poor among them." Southern Virginia is, without a doubt, of one heart, and one mind. It has been said that my father bought this college for me, but you see that's not true. He merely helped in the building of Zion

in Virginia. For that, I am eternally grateful. Not only for my father, but also for the other men and women involved, who followed the Spirit to Southern Virginia College.

**Day after day I prayed that I might find a college that met my needs. Continually I was told that maybe the Lord had another plan for me. I honestly could not understand why He had a different plan for me, when it seemed all the other LDS youth were on the BYU plan.**

# Why Southern Virginia College?

**By Ralph J. Olmo, Director of Institutional Research, Southern Virginia College,  
Former Chief Financial Officer of The Federal Department of Education**

Is our LDS culture at risk as the Church continues to grow? How important are BYU and Ricks College to fostering faithful living among the Saints?

We know that attendees of Church sponsored schools are more likely to live in accordance with Church standards throughout their lives than other members. We also know that for over 30 years, a decreasing percentage of Saints have been able to share in the blessings of a BYU/Ricks experience since there has been a freeze on enrollment at these institutions for many years.

Of course there are compelling reasons for the Church's reduced investment in higher education. There are now even more pressing needs. The gospel continues to be preached to every nation, kindred, tongue and people, resulting in a spiraling growth in church membership that will likely burgeon to over 20 million by 2010. More of our new converts are in South and Central America and Africa and have more basic needs than college such as food, clothing, shelter and literacy. It is heartening to be assured that tithing resources will be

devoted to the neediest among us.

This problem of fewer resources for Church sponsored higher education was foreseen by the brethren long ago and it stimulated the development of the institute program.

But is there a way to restore a total higher education experience similar to that at BYU to all those who

desire it without requiring increasingly scarce tithing funds?

Southern Virginia College aims to fill that need. Without Church sponsorship and at as low a cost as possible, our hope, indeed our dream, is that SVC will serve as a model for other independent higher education institutions that would integrate gospel

living with college life for all those who find BYU and Ricks college inaccessible.

SVC exists to help the next generation of Saints to meet the challenges of continual Church growth. Let all who share our allegiance to the Kingdom of God support this noble effort. Our children's futures may depend on it.

## Sports to be a viewed as a pastime

**By Darren Wilcox**

When Southern Virginia College officially opens its doors this fall, it will not be with intentions of forming a legacy of dominance on the athletic field. Its plans are to treat sports as recreational activities, designed to give students the opportunity to interact with each other in an atmosphere of fun. This is a refreshing concept in an era which includes athletes who refuse to play their sport if they are not paid millions of dollars per year.

According to Toby Anderson, Dean of Student Life, the Nationally renowned Equestrian Program will be the focal point of the sports program. It currently boasts an indoor arena and 25 horses, not to mention a program which has won seven national titles as well as 13 regional titles. With that type of success it is hard to imagine many changes occurring.

As for other sports, most will compete on an intramural or club level beginning in January. With a student body of only 400 students it is unrealistic to expect a football team within the next year or so. However, lacrosse is a popular sport in Virginia and is likely to catch on quickly with the students. Most individual events, such as golf, volleyball, and tennis, are also prime possibilities for the first year.

Dean Anderson commented that the goal of Southern Virginia College is to keep the costs to the students minimal. He remarked that many colleges have higher costs due to a large sports program. Therefore, by maintaining sports on a purely club or intramural basis it will allow for a more affordable college in the long run.

**"Sports" cont.  
next page**

## Opinion: Weighing the options

**By A Virginia Parent**

The opening of Southern Virginia College presents new options for LDS families who desire to provide an LDS-oriented education for their children. In evaluating the feasibility of an education at Southern Virginia College, its advantages must be weighed against several disadvantages.

On the plus side, Southern Virginia College has the desirable feature of being closer to home for families in

the eastern half of the United States. This increases the opportunity for student trips home for holidays and family events that are now limited to Christmas only for most BYU/Ricks students. Shorter distances involve less expenditures in both time and monies.

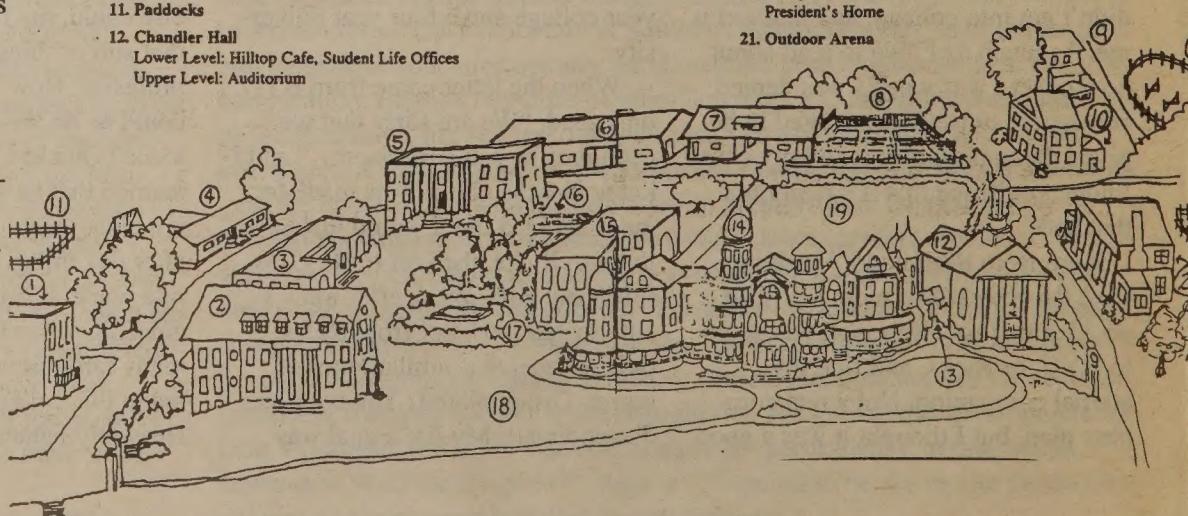
Southern Virginia also has the inherent advantages of a small school; a sense of belonging and identity with other students and the

institution, an intimacy not readily available at large universities with 25,000 students. Perhaps most importantly, Southern Virginia College will provide an environment in conformity with LDS moral and ethical standards.

These advantages come at a price. A major disincentive is cost. Tuition is set at \$9,000 per year, considerably

**"The Options" cont.  
next page**

1. Von Canon Library
2. Durham Hall  
Academic classrooms & offices, SAC
3. Robey Hall  
Laundry and College Store
4. Landrum House  
Interior Design, Early Childhood Education
5. Craton Hall
6. Stanford-Mish Indoor  
Riding Arena
7. Horton-Ashway Stables/"The Barn"  
Equitation Offices
8. Tennis Courts
9. Tucson: Art Building
10. Margaret Lee House  
Admissions, Financial Aid
11. Paddocks
12. Chandler Hall  
Lower Level: Hilltop Cafe, Student Life Offices  
Upper Level: Auditorium
13. The Colonnade
14. Main Hall  
Lower level: Post Office, Chapel, Health Services, Laundry  
Ground level: Administrative Offices, Lobby, Ballroom, Dining Hall  
Upstairs: Residence Halls
15. Gym  
Downstairs: Pool, showers, Phys. Ed Office, Fitness Center, gym classrooms  
Upstairs: Gym, Dance Studio, Sun Deck on roof
16. Parking
17. Pond & Gardens
18. Front/West Lawn
19. Intramurals Field  
"Back Lawn"
20. Tracey House  
President's Home
21. Outdoor Arena



# The Bank Statement

By Priscilla Harman

On May 13 of this year, Southern Virginia College came under new management. "It was a necessary move to save the school," said Robert Hutch, Head of Finances and Administration, "but it was more of a mutual agreement than a 'buy-out.'" The school had incurred a lot of debt over recent years, so a group of individuals met with the school board in the hopes of keeping the school open. All assets and all debts were turned over to the new management, a group largely consisting of LDS church members, and additional funds were added to help with the existing financial situation. Contrary to some rumors, the Church has had no part in funding for the school. "It is now run by Church members," said Hutch, "but it receives no money from the organization itself."

Although much money has been raised through private donations to aid the school, there is still much that is needed. In order to receive accreditation Southern Virginia College must achieve a certain level of financial stability, and Hutch says they hope to be out of debt completely within the next 3-5 years. An estimated \$50 million will need to be raised in that time for the school to reach its goal. But the new board seems confident it can be done. Many alumni of the school have given generous donations in an effort to save their alma mater, while others have simply been interested in aiding a school that promotes high values as well as a good education.

Despite any financial difficulties, Southern Virginia College has kept its tuition price comparatively low. It has gone down from \$11,500 in recent years to \$9,000, and Hutch says they hope to be able to lower the cost even further in the future. The board is also currently working on scholarships, grants, and work-study programs that will lessen the amount students actually have to pay to attend. Such programs depend largely on contributions made to the school, so donations are welcome. Money should be sent to the Development Office of Southern Virginia College.

Continued from Page 10...

## The Options

more than BYU/Ricks. On-campus housing will cost an additional \$6,000 per year. The mandatory requirement that freshman live on campus deprives parents of one cost-saving measure that may make the difference in whether they can afford Southern Virginia College. For similar costs, it may be more attractive to enroll in a more prestigious, established school and depend on the institute program for spiritual support.

The requirement for mandatory community service will be viewed by many as a negative. Service to community and others is most effective when freely given. Mandatory participation robs service of its moral sincerity and opens the door to feelings of resentment and hypocrisy.

The limited curriculum will also serve as a deterrent to those with a more varied outlook. The school risks being perceived as an elitist institution rather than a school for all. A serious deficiency is the lack of accreditation for the school. The validity and acceptance of a degree from such an institution is sure to be called into question by a prospective employer, particularly when competition between applicants is keen.

In summary, the effort to establish an eastern US alternative to BYU/Ricks is commendable. It may be appropriate, however, to review Southern Virginia College's progress in another five years to measure how well it has dealt with the disadvantages listed above. Perhaps then it will be a legitimate, attractive alternative for LDS families.

Continued from Page 10...

## Sports

As for facilities, there is a basketball court which, though well suited to intramural activity, is too old to adequately host inter-collegiate play. There are tennis courts on campus and a swimming pool which could be used for exercise and leisure swimming. Two multi-purpose fields exist which can be used for club sports such as soccer and lacrosse, as well as intramurals and other fun activity sports.

"Sports will be implemented as a fun pastime for students," said Dean Anderson.

In fact, the college plans on taking surveys of the actual students in order to determine their likes and dislikes.

**In fact, the college plans on taking surveys of the actual students in order to determine their likes and dislikes. From these studies they will organize a sports program which will reach all students, leaving no one out in the cold.**

From these studies they will organize a sports program which will reach all students, leaving no one out in the cold. The first students will be pioneers, having the opportunity to play sports on a competitive level that they could only dream of playing competitively at a larger school. Sure the odds of winning a national championship are remote, but the chance to stand on a playing field, representing your college is reward enough. Besides, if worst comes to worst you can always learn to ride a horse. Just watch out where you step.

## What Can I Do to Help Southern Virginia College?

This question has been raised by many friends of the College who have visited its beautiful campus, talked with its faculty, staff, and students, and caught the vision of what it might become. Perhaps you are thinking the same thing. May we suggest some of the ways that you might contribute to the College and be a part of the great work going on here? Please check any that interest you, and send this form to Southern Virginia College, One College Hill Dr., Buena Vista, VA, 24416.

- Advertise the College and recruit students
- Donate Equipment—computers, lab equipment, large-screen TV, jukebox, pool table, etc.
- Work on Fundraising—to help repay the College's debt, endow scholarships and chairs, etc.
- Donate to the funds of the College—\$25, \$50, \$100, \$500, \$1000, other (indicate amount)

Please give us your name and address:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

# \_\_\_\_\_

All contributions are gratefully acknowledged. Southern Virginia College is a non-profit institution. Contributions may be tax deductible.

# **CALENDAR CALENDAR CALENDAR CALENDAR**

## **Film**

- Tower Theatre, 876 E 900 S, SLC, 297-4041.
- Academy Theatre, 56 N University Ave., 373-4470.
- Carillon Square Theatres, 309 E 1300 S, Orem, 224-5112.
- Cineplex Odeon University 4 Cinemas, 959 S 700 E, Orem, 224-6622.
- Movies 8, 2424 N. University Parkway, Provo, 375-5667.
- Varsity Theatre, on BYU Campus, 378-3311.

## **Concerts and Live Shows**

- k.d. lang, August 14 at Wolf Mountain.
- JRS. Farm, August 16 at Liquid Joes.
- Lyle Lovett with special guest Lisa Loeb, August 17 at Wolf Mountain.
- Def Leppard with Tripping Daisy, August 25 at Wolf Mountain.
- Smokin Grooves, August 28 at Wolf Mountain.

- The Smashing Pumpkins, August 28 at the Delta Center.
- Foreigner, September 2 at Wolf Mountain.
- Jackson Browne, September 8 at Wolf Mountain.

## **Continuing Concert Series**

- A Little Summer Night Music, 488-1658.
- Eccles Organ Festival, 328-8941.
- Folk and Bluegrass Festival '96, 1-800-339-7664.
- Jazz at the Hilton, call Lola Monsen, 532-3344.
- Red Butte Garden Summer Concert Series, 581-4747.
- Temple Square Concert Series '96, 240-3318.
- Tuesday Tunes at Trolley, 521-9877.

## **Theatre**

- "Aladdin—It's a Wonderful Lamp," through September 14 at the Desert Star Playhouse, 4861 So.

State, SLC, 226-7600.

- "Forever Plaid," through September 30 at Hale Center Theater Salt Lake City, 2801 S Main St., 484-9257.
- "Murder Mystery Dinner Theater," every Saturday and some Tuesdays at the Lighthouse at Cottonwood Mall, SLC, 278-5313.

- "Midnight Images," at the Wooden Dog in Trolley Square, SLC, 521-8600.
- "Utah," through October 5 at the Tuacahn Amphitheater in St. George, 674-0012.
- "Utah Shakespearean Festival," through August 31 in Cedar City, 1-800-752-9849.
- "Saturday's Voyer," at the Salt Lake Acting Company, 168 W 500 N, SLC, 355-ARTS.

## **Comedy**

- Chyzzelz Comedy Club, at Trolley Square, SLC, 355-6565.

• Comedy Circuit, Main and Center St, Midvale, 561-7777.

- Johnny B's, 177 W 300 S, Provo, 377-6910.
- Spencer the Dominant Hypnotic Force, at the Avalon Theatre, 3605 So. State, SLC, 264-8431.

## **Essential Phone Numbers**

- AIDS Hotline, 1-800-AIDS-411.
- Air Quality Hotline, 373-9560.
- Alcoholics Anonymous, 375-8620.
- Ask-A-Nurse, 377-8488.
- Boy Scouts of America, 373-4185 or 1-800-748-4256.
- BYU Info, 378-INFO.
- BYU Standards, 378-2847.
- Camping at Utah State Parks, 322-3770 or 1-800-322-3700.
- Career Guidance Center, 377-7476.
- Center for Women & Children in Crisis, 374-9351.
- Concert Hotline, 536-1234.
- Cougar Club, 378-2583
- Counseling and Development Center, 378-3035.
- Dial-A-Story, 379-6675.
- Orrin Hatch, 375-7881.
- Lauralyn Jensen, 371-4262 (it's \$2.99 per minute, but discounts are available for DJ's)
- LDS Social Services, 378-7620.
- Peace Corps, 1-800-525-4621.
- Poison Control Center, 1-800-456-7707.
- Smith TIX, 1-800-888-TIXX.
- Student Review, 371-8400.
- Time & Temperature, 373-9120.
- UTA Bus Info, 375-4636.
- UVSC Info, 222-8000.
- White House, 202-456-1414.
- Y-Be-Fit Employee Wellness Program, 378-4494.
- Youth Service Center, 373-2215.

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